

4. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein said carrier carries a matrix and at least one malodour counteractant.

5. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 4, wherein the matrix is a hygroscopic matrix.

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6. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 4, wherein the matrix comprises glycerol and polyethylene glycol.

7. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 4, wherein the matrix comprises one or more surfactants.

8. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 4, wherein the matrix comprises one or more soaps.

10. (Twice Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein the absorbent pad is a composite comprising one or more of the following:

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(i) separate layers of; (1) tissue paper, (2) sodium polyacrylate, glycerol, water, and (3) tissue paper;

(ii) separate layers of; (1) tissue paper, (2) viscose and super-absorbent fibres, and (3) tissue paper;

(iii) separate layers of; (1) tissue paper, (2) viscose and super-absorbent fibres; and

(iv) polyvinyl alcohol fibres and super-absorbent fibres.

11. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein the malodour counteractant is an oxidising agent generator.

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12. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein the malodour counteractant comprises a hydrogen peroxide generator.

13. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein the malodour counteractant comprises a chlorine dioxide generator.

14. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 12, wherein the hydrogen peroxide generator is a metal perborate.

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15. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 14, wherein the metal perborate is sodium perborate.

16. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein the malodour counteractant comprises one or more antibacterial agents and/or one or more fragrance additives.

17. (Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is heat sealed, or welded to the pouch wall.

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19. (Twice Amended) The ostomy pouch according to claim 1, wherein the malodour counteractant is effective in reducing the odor of excreted bodily fluid as smelled by a user of the pouch.

REMARKS

The Final Office Action was carefully considered. Seventeen claims are pending in this application, numbered 1-8, 10-17 and 19. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim, the remaining claims are dependent directly or indirectly thereon.

Claims 9, 18 and 20-26 have been deleted. Claims 1-8, 10-17 and 19 have been amended. The Examiner's rejection under 35 USC 112 has been addressed with the modifications to the claims. The sole independent claim, claim 1, as newly amended, is directed to an ostomy pouch. The pouch includes an envelope having a predeterminedly sized opening for encircling a stoma. The envelope is capable of fitting to the human body around the stoma. The envelope has a carrier that includes an absorbent pad with at least one malodour counteractant. The carrier is attached in a fixed manner to an interior surface portion of the envelope, distal to the base.

It is believed that claim 1 as amended, patentably distinguishes over the art previously cited by the Examiner.

Claim 1, and all the remaining claims, now are clearly directed to an ostomy pouch having an absorbent pad with a malodour counteractant fixedly attached on an interior surface of the